

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1146
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
FOREST VILLAGES
Mediyam Dr. Babu Rao

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of forest villages in the country, state-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has launched any scheme to provide minimum facilities for the forest dwelling scheduled tribes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the National Aforestation and Echo Development Board is involved in the development of forest villages; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, state-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a): There are 2,474 forest villages/ habitations spread over 12 States. Details are as follows:

S.No.	State	No. of Forest Villages	S.No.	State	No. of Forest Villages
1.	Assam	499	7.	Mizoram	85
2.	Chhattisgarh	425	8.	Orissa	20
3.	Gujarat	199	9.	Tripura	62
4.	Jharkhand	24	10.	Uttarakhand	61
5.	Meghalaya	23	11.	Uttar Pradesh	13
6.	Madhya Pradesh	893	12.	West Bengal	170

(b)&(c): During the 10th Five Year Plan, funds were allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the development of forest villages under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP). The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has approved proposals covering 2,388 forest villages in 11 States and also released Rs. 45924.71 lakh as on date. Under the programme, infrastructure work relating to basic services and facilities viz. approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls, etc. and activities related to livelihood are taken up for implementation.

(d)&(e): The National Aforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests have laid down the guidelines for project formulation for development of forest villages. NAEB is also associated in examination of the proposals received from the State Governments under the programme.